

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15

NSC-05 L-02 H-02 OC-05 CCO-00 /073 W

----- 102829

P 121605Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7481

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMECONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 2996

CASABLANCA FOR RCAA WHITMAN; LAGOS ALSO FOR FAA

ABIDJAN ALSO FOR ASST SECY DAVIS

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: EAIR GH

SUB: CIVAIR: GOG REITERATES HARD LINE ON BILATERAL AND  
PRESSURES ON PANAM

REF: A) ACCRA 2880 (NOTAL) B) ACCRA 2936(NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS  
TOOK HARD LINE MAY 9 ON GOG DEMAND FOR BILATERAL AVIATION  
AGREEMENT AND PRESSURES ON PANAM DURING CALL BY ASST  
SECY DAVIS. END SUMMARY.

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2. COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (COL. AGYEKUM) RECEIVED ASST SECY DAVIS, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, USAID DIRECTOR, EC COUNSELOR AND SIMPSON MAY 9. AGYEKUM RAISED SUBJECT OF AVIATION BILATERAL AND PANAM (ALTHOUGH CALL ARRANGED ON ANOTHER SUBJECT).

3. AGYEKUM EMPHASIZED THAT GOG DEL OERATELY BEING "PUNITIVE" TO PANAM TO FORCE BILATERAL AVIATION AGREEMENT FROM USG; GOG INTENDED USE EVERY LEGAL WEAPON AT ITS COMMAND. HE SAID GOG WANTED PARTIES TO MEET AND TO AGREE DURING NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. GOG TOOK FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS AWAY FROM PANAM (BETWEEN ACCRA AND DAKAR, MONROVIA, AND NAIROBI, IN BOTH DIRECTIONS) BECAUSE LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE HAD RESTRICTED GHANA AIRWAYS' (GH) FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS AND, ALTHOUGH TALKS CURRENTLY GOING ON TO REMOVE THESE IMPEDIMENTS FOR GH, GOG RESPONSE IS "LET'S HIT SOMEONE ELSE IN THE CHAIN."

4. RESPONDING TO QUESTION FROM DAVIS, AGYEKUM SAID CURRENTLY GOG ONLY WANTS TO ESTABLISH PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY AND TO OBTAIN THEORETICAL RIGHTS TO US AND BEYOND. SUCH RIGHTS WOULD PROBABLY BE LEFT IN ABEYANCE A NUMBER OF YEARS, PERHPAS UNTIL WEST AFRICAN AIRLINES COMBINED OR OPERATED SOME SORT OF POOL. HE POINTED OUT THAT GOG CURRENTLY HAD BILATERALS WITH SEVERAL COUNTRIES WHERE NO SERVICES (E.G., INDIA), AND LET DROP INFORMATION THAT USSR WANTS TO RENEW ITS BILATERAL WITH GHANA.

5. DAVIS REPLIED THAT ANSWER CURRENTLY BEING PREPARED IN WASHINGTON AGREEING TO GOG REQUEST FOR RESUMPTION OF AVIATION TALKS, BUTPOINTED OUT QUESTION OF AIR RIGHTS ONE OF MOST DIFFICULT AND SENSITIVE AREAS, AND HIGHLIGHTED CURRENT AVIATION INDUSTRY DIFFICULTIES. HE SAID US HAS DIFFICULTY GRANTING THEORETICAL RIGHTS, POINTED OUT PROPOSED GH-PANAM TALKS ARE SEPARATE FROM GOG-USG NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT PANAM AND USG SEPARATE ENTITIES.

6. DAVIS AND AMBASSADOR BOTH HOPED GOG WOULD GIVE PANAM RESONABLE TIME TO COMPLY WITH ITS "IMMEDIATE EFFECT" DEMAND WITHDRAWING SOME FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS. DAVIS  
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NOTED GH HAD ACCEPTED PANAM'S SUGGESTION (MADE AT AGYEKUM'S REQUEST) THAT THERE BE GH-PANAM TALKS, AND POINTED OUT WOULD BE USEFUL AWAIT THEIR OUTCOME BEFORE PROCEEDING AGAINST PANAM. AMBASSADOR REMINDED AGYEKUM THAT PANAM SR. V.P. FLANAGAN HAD SAID PANAM WAS CONSIDERING DROPPING ACCRA ENTIRELY, AND RECENT GOG ACTION MAY PRECIPITATE THAT UNFORTUNATE RESULT; DAVIS EMPHASIZED THAT AN AIRLINE SERVICE ONCE DROPPED, EVEN TEMPORARILY, IS DIFFICULT TO RESTORE,

AND POINTED OUT THAT TOURISM WOULD BE AFFECTED.  
AGYEKUM NOTED THESE REMARKS BUT MADE NO PROMISES. (IN  
MEANTIME, PANAM HAS STOPPED PASSENGER, FREIGHT, AND MAIL  
SERVICE OF ALL KINDS BETWEEN ACCRA AND DAKAR, MONROVIA  
AND NAIROBI, EFFECTIVE MAY 9)

7. AGYEKUM CONCLUDED MEETING BY STATING "THERE IS A FUTURE  
FOR GHANA-USA AVIATION COOPERATION." DAVIS ASSURED  
HIM GOG WOULD MEET WITH CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION  
ON PART OF USA.

8. FOREGOING CLEARED IN DRAFT FOR A/SEC.  
BLACK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, NEGOTIATIONS, AVIATION REGULATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 ACCRA 2880, 75 (NOTA)ACCRA 2936(NOTA)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <21 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CIVAIR: GOG REITERATES HARD LINE ON BILATERAL AND PRESSURES ON PANAM  
**TAGS:** EAIR, GH, PANAM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006